

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 HA-05 EUR-12 /055 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8694

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 06043

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, ELAB
SUBJECT: ILO REPLIES TO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

REF: MILLS-STEPHENS TELECON, APRIL 20, 1978

1. ACCORDING TO ILO SOURCES, IAN LARGEGRN, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR STANDARDS BRANCH, SENT LETTER APRIL 15 TO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IN REPLY TO LATTER'S LETTER OF FEBRUARY 24 DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE PLIGHT OF A WORKERS' GROUP IN THE USSR. LARGEGRN'S LETTER, APPROVED BY DIRECTOR GENERAL BLANCHARD, SAID IN SUBSTANCE:

(A) THE ILO HAS NO CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY TO RECOGNIZE ANY LABOR ORGANIZATION;

(B) HOWEVER, THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE IS GUARANTEED UNDER THE ILO FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION CONVENTIONS, WHICH SOVIET UNION HAS RATIFIED;

(C) THERE ARE SPECIFIC CONSTITUTIONAL COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES FOR GOVERNMENTS, EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS AND DELEGATES TO ILO CONFERENCES;

(D) THE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL LETTER DOES NOT
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CONSTITUTE A COMPLAINT.

2. LARGEGRN'S LETTER STATES THAT THE ILO HAS BROUGHT THE MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE USSR MISSION IN GENEVA.

3. FYI: ILO OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED PUZZLEMENT THAT

WESTERN TRADE UNIONS HAVE NOT FILED COMPLAINT AGAINST
USSR. ICFTU REP IN GENEVA TOLD MISSION LABATT THAT
"WE HAVE MISSED GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY." VANDEN HEUVEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, HUMAN RIGHTS, LABOR, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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